

Volume 4, No. 7

U.S. Army Intelligence & Security Command

May 21, 2004

A day to remember

Each year on Memorial Day we join together to honor the memory of American Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coastguardsmen who made the ultimate sacrifice in an effort to preserve the freedoms, opportunities and optimism that make America such a beacon of hope and inspiration for the world.

Beyond the commemorative parks and monuments of the Washington D.C. area, in gardens of stone across our nation, in memorial cemeteries in Europe and the Pacific, and on unmarked foreign battlefields - lie the heroes of America. They came from every walk of life. Each different except for basic shared values: a sense for fairness and decency, and the view that each citizen of our world deserves the opportunity to live and prosper without fear or repression. This common vision gave birth to our country and continues to inspire this and future generations in America and across the globe.

Freedom isn't free. From Bunker Hill to Guadalcanal; during campaigns in Korea, Vietnam, Panama, the Balkans, Somalia, Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere, America's sons, daughters, fathers, mothers, husbands and wives have paid the price for liberty in blood and with their lives. Those who have lived long remember those who did not. The words on the Army 2nd Infantry Division World War II memorial in Burma, which honors the many American Soldiers who never returned from Burmese jungles and fields, still apply. It reads, "When you go home, tell them of us and say that for your tomorrow, we gave our today."

This Memorial Day finds our nation at war against terrorism. It is a war we did not seek, but one we will decisively win. This war is more personal than previous conflicts. Our enemy does not represent a nation, only evil.

This enemy, has killed thousands of our citizens. many on our own shore, and seeks to destroy the open, pluralistic, democratic society that makes America unique and a force that they fear greatly. They will not succeed and they are being defeated as we speak by the courage, selfless commitment and tenacious, self-confident. determined efforts of America's military. These brave men and women accept the inherent risks of this work for the sake of their comrades, their nation,



DA photo

their children and the generations to come; to ensure that religious totalitarianism will not prevail and that our open, values-based society is preserved.

We pause today, more than any other day, to remember and mourn the Soldiers and civilians of all services who put aside things our society normally considers important to sacrifice all on our behalf. We take the time to say a public "thank-you" through commemorative wreath laying. monuments and memorial ceremonies. And, to reflect on the remarkable environment and benefits which their service has given us. With over 350,000 military personnel

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deployed today in over 120 countries in support the Global War on Terrorism, Memorial Day is even more significant.

At the Nolan Building, INSCOM headquarters, we find ourselves surrounded by monuments. They honor those within our intelligence ranks who made the supreme sacrifice during conflict and missions around the world. A stone at the base of a tree recalls the sacrifice of an officer lost on a sensitive mission in Germany during the sometimes lethal "Cold War."

A gray granite monument topped by the statue of a Soldier is dedicated to Army Security Agency Soldiers lost during operations in Korea, the Dominican Republic and Vietnam. A dark marble wall on the grounds commemorates the sacrifice of INSCOM Sol-

diers since that time - the inscribed names include an officer lost to terrorist attack in the Pan Am 103 bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, and Soldiers lost during operations in Colombia.

This year we're updating the INSCOM memorial to commemorate the sacrifice of 10 Soldiers who lost their lives during a wide range of hazardous missions in the service of America over the past years. Three of the names belong to Soldiers who lost their lives in support of Operation Iragi Freedom: Sgt. D. Travis Friedrich, 325th MI Battalion, Waterbury, Conn., Staff Sgt. Richard S. Eaton, 323rd MI Battalion, Fort Meade, Md., and Sqt. First Class Christopher R. Willoughby, 221st MI Battalion, Fort Gillem, Ga. Each deployed with INSCOM's 513th MI Brigade. Each performed their

duties with great distinction in the face of a determined, ruthless enemy. Each contributed directly and significantly to keeping this Nation secure and making the world a safer, better place.

As a final thought, the death and injury of our Soldiers and civilians is always tragic. We usually think of those losses in terms of military operations. But, it is equally possible, and just as heartbreaking, to lose our people to accidents that should be prevented. As we move into summer, I ask that you take special care to avoid accidents. Remember, we are an Army at war and INSCOM needs each of you. Be safe and make it home, both here and abroad. God bless our Soldiers. Civilians and families. God bless America.

Maj. Gen. John F. Kimmons

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photo by Bob Bills

Correction: The memorial shown in the previous issue was the ASA memorial. The 10 names were added to the INSCOM memorial.

INSCOM Insight is published biweekly as a Command Information epublication for the men and women of the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command under the provisions of AR 360-1.

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photo by Bob Bills

Staff Sgt. Veronica Ingle answers questions during Career Day at Fort Belvoir Elementary School April 29.

INSCOM goes 'back to school'

by Brian MurphyINSCOM Public Affairs

Several professionals from the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command headed back to school April 29.

The INSCOM Soldiers and civilians weren't trying to rekindle their youth, they were visiting the children of the Fort Belvoir Elementary School as part of the school's Career Day.

"The students constantly feel what they're learning now in elementary school doesn't apply to the real world," said Teresa Chapman, lead counselor and coordinator of Career Day. "We brought in people from many different back-grounds to show the students that what they're learning now is important."

Staff Sgt. Veronica Ingle, career counselor, INSCOM, was one of the Soldiers who participated in the event.

"This was a chance to help many of the kids decide what they want to be when they grow up," she said. "We wanted to show the kids what we do on a daily basis and tell them what our jobs are like."

In addition to the INSCOM Soldiers and civilians, there

were also doctors, lawyers, fire fighters and more.

"It was a lot of fun," said Karen Kovach, of the INSCOM history office. "I enjoyed spending time with the children and answering any questions they had."

The most popular question of the day was, "have you been deployed to Iraq," according to Ingle. And what was the most popular answer to the infamous "what do you want to be when you grow up" question?

"Almost all of the children wanted to be a veterinarian," Ingle said.

AFAP: helps Soldiers, families

by Brian MurphyINSCOM Public Affairs

Representatives from across the globe and throughout the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command gathered in hopes of improving the quality of life of our Soldiers and their families during the Army Family Action Plan conference May 11-13 in Springfield, Va.

AFAP provides input from the people of the Army to Army leadership. It's a process that lets Soldiers and families say what's working, and what isn't and what they think will fix it, according to the AFAP Web site (www.armycommunityservice.org).

During the conference, the group of INSCOM representatives selected six active issues that they felt were critical and will forward their six choices to the Department of the Army. Those issues are: pay table reform; modification of the Army's weight allowance table; an extension of temporary living expenses from 10 days to 14; housing for active-duty pregnant Soldiers; inadequate support for Family Readiness Groups; and revitalization of Army family housing and elimination of housing deficits.

"We were given a list of 97 critical active AFAP issues," said Yolande Johnson-Spinnato, INSCOM's AFAP program manager. "From that list, we chose six that we felt were the most important. We had to do a little homework during the conference."

The representatives then

turned their attention to areas that weren't active AFAP issues. They focused on two other areas - re-deployments and on-post housing waiting lists.

"When Soldiers return from a combat zone with their unit they receive reintegration training and counseling," said Suzanne O'Neil, wife of a 66th MI Group Soldier. "But when individually-deployed Soldiers return from combat, they are not consistently receiving the same training and counseling. Reintegration training and counseling consists of stress and anger management, suicide prevention, and recognizing indicators that can lead to domestic violence or substance abuse. The lack of training jeopardizes the Soldier and their family members' safety and well-being."

With that in mind, the group is recommending to the command that it be mandated that all Soldiers returning from a combat zone participate in reintegration training and counseling within two weeks of their return.

"The need for consistent redeployment training came from the National Ground Intelligence Center," Johnson-Spinnato said. "Because they're not on a military installation, they've had trouble getting consistent support for their Soldiers who are returning home."

The other area of focus was the Family Housing for Homebase Advanced Assign-

"What happens here makes a difference.
These changes can have a great impact on the Soldiers and their family members,"

Yolande Johnson-Spinnato AFAP manager, INSCOM

ment Program.

Current policy restricts
Soldiers to a maximum of 14
months on the waiting list at
their next duty station. Because
dependant-restricted tours can
exceed the 14-month limit, the
group agreed Soldiers should
receive full credit for the time
served on a dependant-restricted tour.

"We are recommending that the regulation be amended to allow full-time credit for the duration of a dependant-restricted tour with respect to housing eligibility date," O'Neil said.

Since AFAP began 20 years ago, more than 560 issues have entered the Headquarters, Department of the Army AFAP. Included in that number are 85 changes to legislation; changes to 133 Defense Department or Army policies and regulations; and 147 new or improved programs or service improvements.

For addition information, contact Johnson-Spinnato at 703-428-4616.



photo by Sgt. Jeremiah Johnson

With a majority of their budget spent supporting deployed Soldiers, IMA announced a number of budget cuts.

IMA announces changes

WASHINGTON - The United States Army Installation Management Agency announced May 12 a number of budget-related actions to be immediately implemented by the agency to enable it to continue providing support to the Army for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Maj. Gen. Anders B.
Aadland, IMA director, announcing the actions to IMA personnel through a NETCALL message, stated, "We must reduce expenditures immediately to do our part to get through this challenging year."

Aadland also noted, "These are extraordinary times for our

Army - when fighting a war on several fronts, maintaining combat readiness on others, and transforming our warfighting force through the Modularity Concept are being executed simultaneously.

"Our installations have a vital role in these unprecedented actions, and we must not fail."

Personnel management initiatives include:

Implementing a hiring freeze for all appropriated fund employees and non-appropriated fund employees reimbursed by appropriated funds. Exceptions include fill actions and retention of term or tempo-

rary employees essential for support of the Global War on Terrorism/Modularity, or hiring actions resulting from DA-directed military-to-civilian conversions when the military incumbent is departing. The hiring freeze does not affect internal promotions, reassignments or other actions not resulting in accessions to IMA roles or PCS moves.

Release of all temporary employees not paid for by GWOT funds not later than June 1, and no extensions of term employees scheduled to expire this fiscal year.

No hiring under student

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employment and summer hire programs. Currently working student employees and those scheduled to return for summer work will be released or placed in a leave-without-pay status.

For the remainder of the fiscal year, IMA will not fund military or civilian training. Employees will be encouraged to take maximum advantage of training funded through ACTEDS dollars available through career program channels and Army G1.

IMA also plans to achieve FY04 budgetary savings by canceling all IMA-generated conferences and meetings requiring expenditure of temporary duty funds, and will focus on the use of video teleconferences and conference calls to meet communication and coordination needs. IMA personnel required to attend non-IMA sponsored conferences and meetings in a TDY status must have be approved by IMA regional directors or the IMA Chief of Staff.

In the area of installation services, IMA plans to reduce or limit services to those essential to supporting an Army at war, or which are critical to life support of the supported population. Installation activities such as logistics support, public works and community services are among the broad

array of services IMA garrisons provide Soldiers, families and the civilian work force that may be impacted.

Other areas addressed in the NETCALL include supplies, service contracts, force protection, facilities reduction program, information technology, environmental, facilities sustainment, tactical equipment maintenance, and appropriated fund support of non-appropriated fund activities.

"It won't be easy, but I am confident that Army and IMA leaders will do what is necessary to ensure the IMA continues to provide critical services at installations worldwide," said Aadland.



photo by Spc. Felicia Thompson

Pfc. Natasha Lacey, of the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, paints a 5'x 4' shield of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 513th MI Brigade logo.

Soldier gets one year sentence

WASHINGTON - The first soldier to receive a court martial in connection with the Abu Ghraib prison abuse was sentenced May 19 in Baghdad.

A military judge sentenced U.S. Army Spc. Jeremy Sivits to one year in confinement, a bad conduct discharge and a reduction in rank to private.

As part of a pre-trial agreement, Sivits pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to maltreat detainees, two counts of maltreatment of detainees and one count of dereliction of duty, according to Central Command officials. Sivits

remains eligible in future trials to be called as a witness by either the prosecution or the defense, a command spokesman said in a May 19 press release.

Charges against Sivits were filed in March, following an investigation by the Criminal Investigation Division. Defense officials have been investigating allegations of prisoner abuse since Jan. 13, when a soldier brought his concerns to the attention of the chain of command.

After a short confinement at a temporary facility, Sivits will be transferred to a military regional confinement facility.

INSCOM civilian earns top honors

Charlynn Sunderland was named the 2003 Volunteer of the Year at the annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony held April 19 at Fort Meade, Md.

As installation volunteer of the year, Sunderland was recognized for her service to the Enlisted Spouses' Club and its thrift shop, spearheading efforts to collect and ship items to small units in Iraq and assisting in coordinating the Adoptan-Angel program, which donates Christmas gifts to needy children.

Sunderland began her volunteerism after arriving at Fort Meade in 1997 with her husband, Staff Sgt. Thomas Sunderland of the 323rd Military Intelligence Battalion, who returned from Iraq two weeks ago.

The mother of two also volunteers at Gilford Elementary School in Columbia and in her church's children's programs.

"I volunteer for different

reasons," said Sunderland, a security assistant at the post's Central Personnel Security Clearance Facility. "Adopt-an-Angel has been a passion of mine. To see the children's faces is very rewarding. A lot of people don't want to do things if they are not paid. But, the reward for me is helping people. The only way an organization or program will work is if everyone pitches in."

In total, 40 volunteers of the year were honored for their service to their respective organizations at the ceremony by Col. John W. Ives, installation commander. About 365 volunteers attended the three-hour ceremony and luncheon, which coincided with National Volunteer Week.

"We do it as a small token of our appreciation because volunteers give so much to the community," said Jamie Cole, ACS director. "What they do is help improve the quality of life on Fort Meade. It's one way to let them know that the installation and Fort Meade community appreciate all they give back."

"The very definition of a hero is selfless service and you do that every day," said Phyllis Wheeler, installation volunteer coordinator, at the ceremony. "When you help people at Fort Meade they carry that goodwill you impart to them all around the world."

Before the presentations, lves praised the honorees.

"You have devoted yourself unselfishly to a host of activities and causes," he said. "You are a vital and effective force in the growth of our community. Your achievements come with no small amount of sacrifice, the greatest being that of your own personal time."

The Fort Meade Volunteer Corps of 1,800 men and women also was honored at the Governor's Volunteer and Service Awards held April 20 in Annapolis. About 40 attended.